WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An information communication system in which a service information provider registers in advance service information in information provision means, managed by a carrier, for providing the service information, and a user receives the service information by accessing the information provision means via a communication network, comprising a database for separately storing profile information indicating attribute information of the user and preference information indicating a preference and taste of the user upon encrypting the profile information and preference information.

2.   A system according to claim 1, wherein the profile information and preference information are pieces of information for which the user gave consent to disclosure.

3.   A system according to claim 1, further comprising means for generating a keyword for searching/extracting information stored in said database on the service information provider side.

4.   A system according to claim 2, further comprising means for generating a keyword for searching/extracting information stored in said database on the service information provider side.

5.   A system according to claim 3, further comprising

information search means for searching said database to extract information in accordance with the keyword and supplying the extracted information to the service information provider.

5   6.   A system according to claim 4, further comprising information search means for searching said database to extract information in accordance with the keyword and supplying the extracted information to the service information provider.

10   7.   A system according to claim 5, wherein said information search means also supplies key information required to decrypt the extracted information.

       8.   A system according to claim 6, wherein said information search means also supplies key information

15   required to decrypt the extracted information.

       9.   A system according to claim 1, further comprising storage means for, when the user accesses said information provision means, obtaining the profile information and preference information in accordance with contents of the

20   access to said information provision means, and storing the profile information and preference information in said database.

       10.   A system according to claim 9, wherein said storage means acquires and stores terminal attribute

25   information of the user and communication attribute

information required to access said information provision means as the profile information.

11. A system according to claim 9, wherein said storage means acquires and stores the preference

5   information on the basis of link information obtained when the user sequentially selects menu items on a display screen in accessing said information provision means.

12. A system according to claim 9, wherein said storage means acquires and stores a filter condition as

10 the preference information which is set when the user receives information from said information provision means and indicates necessity/nonnecessity of information.

13. A system according to claim 9, wherein said storage means acquires and stores positional information

15 and a type of communication line, as the preference information, when the user is accessing.

14. A system according to claim 9, wherein said storage means acquires and stores as the preference information a use frequency of an access device through

20 which the user is accessing.

15. An information communication method in which a service information provider registers in advance service information in information provision means, managed by a carrier, for providing the service information, and a user

25 receives the service information by accessing the

information provision means via a communication network, comprising the step of separately storing profile information indicating attribute information of the user and preference information indicating a preference and

5   taste of the user in a database upon encrypting the profile information and preference information.

16. A method according to claim 15, wherein the profile information and preference information are pieces of information for which the user gave consent to

10   disclosure.

17. A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of generating a keyword for searching/extracting information stored in the database on the service information provider side.

15   18. A method according to claim 16, further comprising the step of generating a keyword for searching/extracting information stored in the database on the service information provider side.

19. A method according to claim 17, further

20   comprising the information search step of searching the database to extract information in accordance with the keyword and supplying the extracted information to the service information provider.

20. A method according to claim 18, further

25   comprising the information search step of searching the

database to extract information in accordance with the keyword and supplying the extracted information to the service information provider.

21. A method according to claim 19, wherein the
5 information search step comprises also supplying key information required to decrypt the extracted information.

22. A method according to claim 20, wherein the information search step comprises also supplying key information required to decrypt the extracted information.

10 23. A method according to claim 15, further comprising the storage step of, when the user accesses the information provision means, obtaining the profile information and preference information in accordance with contents of the access to the information provision means,
15 and storing the profile information and preference information in the database.

24. A method according to claim 23, wherein the storage step comprises acquiring and storing terminal attribute information of the user and communication
20 attribute information required to access the information provision means as the profile information.

25. A method according to claim 23, wherein the storage step comprises acquiring and storing the preference information on the basis of link information
25 obtained when the user sequentially selects menu items on

a display screen in accessing the information provision means.

26. A method according to claim 23, wherein the storage step comprises acquiring and storing a filter
5 condition as the preference information which is set when the user receives information from the information provision means and indicates necessity/nonnecessity of information.

27. A method according to claim 23, wherein the
10 storage step comprises acquiring and storing positional information and a type of communication line, as the preference information, when the user is accessing.

28. A method according to claim 23, wherein the storage step comprises acquiring and storing as the
15 preference information a use frequency of an access device through which the user is accessing.

29. In an information communication system in which a service information provider registers in advance service information in information provision means, managed by a
20 carrier, for providing the service information, and a user receives the service information by accessing the information provision means via a communication network, an information communication business method which uses a database in which profile information indicating attribute
25 information of the user and preference information

indicating a preference and taste of the user are stored after the profile information and preference information are encrypted and provides the stored information to the service information provider with a charge, comprising the

5 steps of:

generating a keyword which is used by the service information provider to search the database; and

searching the database in accordance with the keyword, extracting information, and providing the extracted

10 information to the service information provider.

30. A method according to claim 29, wherein the profile information and preference information are pieces of information for which the user gave consent to disclosure.

15 31. A method according to claim 29, further comprising providing key information for decrypting the extracted information when the extracted information is provided to the service information provider.

32. A method according to claim 30, further

20 comprising providing key information for decrypting the extracted information when the extracted information is provided to the service information provider.